Loose lips still might sink ships

Commentary by Capt. Jay Ostrich

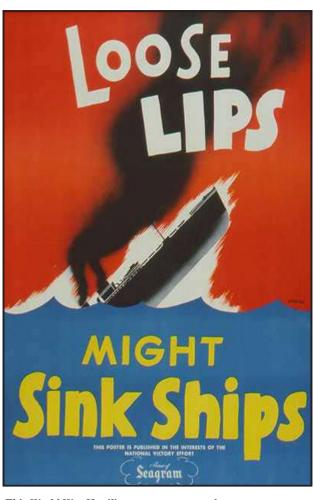
If you're lucky enough to sit down with a World War II veteran, these heroes will often regale you with tales that leave you proud and happy you took the time to listen.

Inevitably though, the price of admission will often be listening to the phrase, "You guys have no idea how easy you have it nowadays."

While I once bristled at that notion, I now embrace it. Thanks to their sacrifices, we *really do* have it pretty good. But when it comes to communications, does that premise really hold true? My take: The more things change the more they stay the same.

In their day, the iconic, if not simple poster "Loose lips might sink ships" was used to stop secret information from getting into the hands of our enemies. It was quite effective, though its designers never dreamed the way information would move in the 21st century.

While the ways in which we communicate have dramatically changed, the innate human need to blab has not. Just ask today's intel community, which must combat both traditional lapses of operational security and its higher threat of proliferation through 24-hour news cycles, the Internet and cell



This World War II military poster was used to stop secret information from getting into the hands of our enemies. Today, lessons can still be learned from the ideals this poster promoted.

phones. The bottom line: Communication is easier and their job is harder.

Even so, their advice has remained the same as well: Silence means security; and your life, quite literally, could depend on it.

So why then, given the clear and uncompromising consequences of opening one's mouth, must some servicemembers insist on doing so?

In fairness, modern-day violations of OPSEC are often inadvertent though no less deadly. According to the Pew Internet and American Life Project, one in five people studied say they have sent an e-mail, instant or text message to someone they meant to be private but which was forwarded onto others by the recipient.

That's shocking in the context of OPSEC and the seemingly incessant need for today's generation to communicate this way. Can you imagine what's actually "out there" for the bad guys to piece together?

Ironic as it may be, the ease in which we communicate begs us now to tighten restrictions in release of information. While few suggest additional institutionalized

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SCOPE

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THE VOICE OF THE QUIET PROFESSIONALS

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193rd falls short of mark

By Master Sgt. Denise M. Teats

For the second consecutive year the 193rd has fallen short of the mark. Dec. 31, 2008 ended another lost opportunity of receiving \$10,000 additional funding from the National Guard Bureau for maintaining a low delinquency rate for the Government Travel Card Program. The incentive program was started in 2005 in order to strengthen ANG credibility by reducing GTC payment delinquency, maximize readiness capability of ANG members, and maximize vender rebates to further support ANG missions.

Two criteria must be met to be eligible for the \$10,000:

- 1. To qualify for the incentive program, for the 12 month period of (Jan.-Dec.) units must achieve and average delinquency of less than two percent of the total dollars and less than one percent of the accounts.
- 2. To receive the incentive, a unit's delinquency must be less than two percent of the total dollars and less than one percent of the accounts for the month ending Dec. 31.

We received the incentive in 2006 but have since allowed it to slip through our fingers. Delinquency is a serious offense; as a result, the following actions have been taken against members of our unit: letters of counseling, lost opportunities for promotion, reduction in rank and discharge from service. Consequences for delinquency are governed by Policy Letter 19 which is in the process of being converted to a Wing Operating Instruction 65-101. Always remember that balances on the GTC are the responsibility of the card holder.

If you ever have a question there are several places that can be of help including, the number on the back of the card, your unit APC, and the Finance office. There is also good information and links located on the shared drive under FMGroup Public Access\Government Travel Card.

We have started another year with another opportunity to receive the \$10,000 incentive. We have some catching up to do but still have time to do it. Let's go for it and make the mark this year.

GTC QUICK REFERENCE:

Citibank toll free phone number: 1-800-200-7056 Finance Office phone number: 2388

Online training offered at: www.fss.gsa.gov/webtraining/trainingdocs/traveltraining/

GTC delinquency is a serious offense!

Always remember that balances on the GTC are the responsibility of the car holder!





for the month of January

Promotion to Master Sergeant

Christal D. Porta 193 LRS Nicholas P. Pizzo 193 SOW

Promoted to Technical Sergeant

Steven M. Hansman	193 SOW
Lisa A. Olszewski	193 SOW
Thomas W. Nickle	193 CES
Simon A. Cameron	193 MXS
James D. Callahan	211 EIS
Seth S. Clark	211 EIS
Colin Wilson	211 EIS
Mark R. Simmon	211 EIS

Promoted to Staff Sergeant

Wade R. Rhinehart	193 CES
Salvatore J. Tufaro	193 MXS
Cassandra P. Forsyth	203 WF
Richard T. Church	193 505
Nathan A. Carroll	193 SOW

Promoted to Airman First Class

Laniel D. Vazquez 193 CS

Congratulations!

News In Brief

5th annual Bunny Run scheduled

The 193rd Special Operations Wing's Motorcycle Club presents the 5th Annual Bunny Run on April 11.

Donate new Easter related stuffed animals. The animals must be bought specifically for this event for the health of the children who will receive them.

All proceeds will be donated to children in local area hospitals, including the Ronald McDonald House in Hershey.

Riders will meet at the 193rd's Consolidate Club at 9 a.m. All riders are welcome and are reminded that helmets are required on base.

Any questions, please contact: Rich Fanning (717) 645-8147 or Timothy Greiner (717) 371-4560.

193rd Chief's Council food drive

The Chief's Council is proud to sponsor the first "Operation 193rd Cares" food drive. It will be held from May 14-17

The types of items needed include: canned tuna, canned meats and stews, soup, peanut butter, canned fruit, canned vegetables, pasta, rice, baby food, baby cereal, formula, canned and dried beans.

Collection barrels will be placed at various locations around the base.

Loss of first CMSgt of the Air Force

Former Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Paul Wesley Airey died March 11 in Panama City, Fla. Airey was born in Quincy, Mass., on Dec. 13, 1923. At age eighteen, shortly after the bombing of Pearl Harbor he quit high school to enlist in the Army Air Forces on Nov. 16, 1942. He later earned his high school equivalency certificate through off-duty study.

During his tenure he worked to change loan establishments charging exorbitant rates outside the air base gates and to improve low retention during the Vietnam Conflict. Chief Airey also led a team that laid the foundation for the Weighted Airman Promotion System, a system that has stood the test of time and which is still in use today. He also advocated for an Air Force-level Senior Noncommissioned Officer Academy. Airey retired Aug.1, 1970.



Family by the numbers, building a legacy

By Airman 1st Class Claire E. Behney



On Feb. 3 Kristopher C. Bratcher became the fifth member of the Foy family to join the Air National Guard. He is slated to join the 201st after the completion of his military training.

They met at the 193rd Special Operations Wing in 1992 when she was working as a secretary in supply and he was a telecommunication specialist. He reported in her office to repair a computer and the rest, as they say, is history. Well, not quite.

Meet Chief Master Sgt. James K. Foy Sr. and Master Sgt. 1st Sgt. Sherri L. Foy, the proud but humble foundation behind what has recently become a six-and-a-half member family tradition of service to the Air National Guard.

Not only have they combined for nearly six decades of service, but their dedication to community, commonwealth and country has inspired their offspring to cross into the blue.

"I've always been proud of my father and I always knew I wanted to enlist, it was just a matter of when."

-- Kevin M. Foy, son of Chief and 1st Sgt. Foy

"They are two people who have given their lives to the military and raised children at the same time," said Capt. Angela D. Stateler, commander of the 193rd Mission Support Flight. "Now those children are giving back to the military and it's just a great thing."

First from the nest was Tech Sgt. James K. Foy Jr., a 193rd electronic communica-



First Sgt. Foy, her son, Kristopher, and husband, Chief Foy, pause from the day's activities to document Kristopher's enlistment. Chief Foy enlisted in 1976 and 1st Sgt. joined her senior year of high school in 1985. Together the duo dedicated 57 years to the service.

tions specialist who commutes quarterly from Alabama where he lives with his wife Staff Sgt. Amanda D. Foy, a personnel specialist with the 280th Combat Communications Squadron, Ala.

"At the time of his enlistment, Junior had hair about to his shoulders and metal in his face," said Chief Foy of the 271st Combat Communications Squadron. "He did a complete 180."

Recently, 1st Sgt. Foy was elated when her son, Kristopher C. Bratcher, came to her with questions about enlisting. She knew the Air National Guard would provide her son the direction in his life that he needed.

On Feb. 3 Bratcher became the fifth member of the Foy family to join when he raised his right hand and recited the Oath of Enlistment at Fort Indiantown Gap, the same location 1st Sgt. Foy took her oath nearly 24-years ago.

"She said she's glad she enlisted because it's taught her a lot about discipline," Bratcher said of his mother.

But the lessons learned and love of service would continue to spread.

Just ask son Kevin, who recalls a time when he witnessed someone see his father

in uniform and thanked him for serving. Kevin said that hit the mark for him.

"I've always been very proud of my father and I always knew I wanted to enlist, it was just a matter of when," said Kevin.

On Feb. 6, Kevin M. Foy, the sixth Foy to join the ANG took the oath right along-side his fiancé, Alica Hamme.

As for Alice, she remains the "half" of the equation. First Sgt. Foy explained she titles Hamme "the half" until she and Kevin are married – it seems attention to detail just can't escape in the family. Hamme will then count as the seventh Foy enlisted in the Air National Guard.

"I'm excited to share the experience with Kris and my fiancé and the rest of the family," Kevin said.

While Kevin, Hamme, and Bratcher are all currently waiting orders for Basic Military Training and technical school, 13-year-old sister, Tabitha N. Foy waits reluctantly in the wings.

Tabitha already claims she will not be enlisting, said 1st Sgt. Foy.

Nonetheless, as 6.5 Foys prepair to report to drill this weekend, they will do so with a love for service and a legacy still to be written.



Women's role in today's military growing

By Chief Master Sgt. Lori D. Mulholland

When people find out that I am in the military, I am still amazed by their response. Surprise! Women are part of the military. I guess it didn't occur to me that if you are not from a military family you may not realize that the military doesn't just shoot guns or fly airplanes; and you certainly don't have to be a man to join. Even today, people have perceptions of what a woman's role should be in society. We are wives, sisters, mothers, aunts, daughters and yes, are also Airman.

When I was in Desert Storm, I ran into a bunch of ladies who were discussing their infants they had left behind, some as young as 6 weeks old. It was heartbreaking, but they knew it was a sacrifice they had made to serve their country along side their male counterparts.

Twenty-five years ago most of the jobs women signed up for were largely health care or administrative. I am proud to see that today women are now members of Civil Engineering, OPS, Security Forces and Maintenance.

They are Heavy Equipment Operators, Fire Fighters, Commanders, First Sergeants, Chiefs and even Officers!

Women have been in the military for over 4,000 years, early titles include the ancient warrior woman. Deborah



This World War II recruiting poster for the Women's Army Corps was published by the Recruiting Publicity Bureau, U.S. Army in 1944. Women only began openly serving in the military in 1941.

Sampson, of Massachusetts, was an early ambassador joining the Continental Army and even dug a musket ball out of her own thigh to avoid being discovered as a woman

Women then began serving openly in 1941 as WACS and mainly as Nurses. Over 40,000 women served in the Gulf War performing all types of jobs, a sign of the times. Today, women make up over 20 percent of the military. One thing I do want to point out, while women take

on more challenges and are breaking through the barriers of the perceived roles of women, by human nature women think differently then men. I know this is stating the obvious. Women are natural relationship builders, multitaskers, collaborators and nurturers. We are intuitive, big- picture oriented and talk out problems, while noting that, as women we need to remember to embrace the differences that make us who we are.

We aren't just Nurses anymore!

Honoring 'ordinary' who did extraordinary

By Chief Master Sgt. George R. Flick

Until recently, I was unaware that there was a day set aside to honor our fellow Veterans that have received the Medal of Honor. The United States Congress designated March 25 of each year as National Medal of Honor Day. Why March 25? It was on this day in 1863 that the first Medals of Honor were presented to six members of Andrews' Raiders

It was by accident, or perhaps fate that sparked my interest on this topic. As some of you may know I am a member of the 201st Red Horse Squadron. In 2002 we were deployed; my team and I were en route to Ganci, Air Base Kyrgyzstan to support Operation Enduring Freedom. We had a short two day layover in Germany and needed something to do to fill our time. I suggested we travel to nearby Luxembourg to see General Patton's grave. I had



Capt. Steven L.
Bennett, an Air Force
pilot who flew in
Vietnam, is one of the
awarded the 3,462 service members to receive
the Medal of Honor for
his heroic efforts.

been there in the 80s with my wife and I knew it would be interesting to our guys.

During our visit I found that there were two Medal of Honor recipients buried there. Upon further investigation I found that one of them was from Nescopeck, Pa., a small town very close to my home. I had to find out more about this hometown Hero.

His name was Sgt. Day G. Turner. On January 8, 1945 Turner was in charge of a nine man squad tasked with the mission of holding a critical flank position. Overwhelming numbers of enemy attacked repeatedly with artillery, mortar and rocket fire. Turner and his squad took a defensive position in a nearby house. With five of his men wounded, one killed, and running out of ammunition Turner threw

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Loose lips still sink ships (continued from Page 1)

mandates as a means to that end, many experts place the burden squarely on the individual. In other words, we all must accept that *more* must now equal *less*.

To come to terms with this, just ask yourself a few important questions: Does your wife *really* need an e-mail with mission details or do you owe her a greater debt by returning in one piece? Do your buddies *really* need that text on your departure times or would they rather buy you a round when you get back? Do you *honestly* owe the barber updates on your mission or would he rather have a repeat customer? Do you *really* need your name and picture in the paper during a send off if it would mean

reprinting them in your obituary?

While the questions are rhetorical, the answers lie within. Ultimately, in this age of lightning-fast communication, your respect for OPSEC and commitment to the sacrifice of self-censoring may be the difference to ever communicating again.

When you are tempted to let a text or flip remark fly, remember those World War II Soldiers, whose dependence on snail mail often left them without answers from loved ones for months if not years at a time.

Indeed, the more things change, the more they *need* to stay the same.

Honoring 'ordinary' who did extraordinary (continued from Page

a can of flaming oil on his attackers. After a fierce fire fight using enemy weapons, with only three men left unwounded, Turner and his squad killed 11 enemy soldiers, wounded a great number and his team took 25 prisoners. Turner was killed in another battle a month later.

A more recent Medal of Honor recipient from the War on Terror was a man from Knox, Pa., a small town in western Pa. His name was Pfc. Ross A. McGinnis. On December 4, 2006 McGinnis was manning a 50-caliber machine gun patrolling in Adhamiyah, northeast Baghdad, Iraq. During this mission an enemy insurgent threw a fragmentation grenade into the gunner's hatch of his vehicle. McGinnis yelled "grenade" to warn the four members of his crew. Then, a seemingly ordinary

young American did something extraordinary. McGinnis made the courageous decision to protect his crew. Instead of jumping out of the vehicle to safety, McGinnis dove on the grenade pinning it between his body and the vehicle. This extraordinary act of heroism saved the lives of his crew members but resulted in McGinnis being mortally wounded.

Those were just two examples of ordinary Americans doing something extraordinary while answering their Nation's call. Every day we hear our media portraying Hollywood celebrities, sports figures, and politicians as heroes. We need to inform the next generation that the real heroes are the ones that have ensured we continue to have the rights, privileges and freedoms we Americans know and love.

Since it was established in 1863 a total of 3,462 Medals of Honor have been awarded of these, 378 are accredited to Pennsylvanians'. Two of these were National Guard members, both from World War I. Sergeant James I. Mestrovich and Major Joseph H. Thompson.

To date there are only 98 living Medal of Honor recipients. The average age is 74 years old.



Pictured above are the three different variations of the Medal of Honor. Right, the Navy/Coast Guard/Marines. Center, Air Force. Left, Army.

Show your support on National Medal of Honor Day:

*Fly your flag with pride and patriotism on this day

*Remember our heroes. Mail a "thank you" to one of our living Medal of Honor recipients

*Inform your local media. Most newspapers aren't even aware that this day exists.

*Consider doing something in your local schools.

*If there is a Medal of Honor recipient buried in your home town, get a school, class, scout troop, or other youth organization to "adopt a grave site".





What's on the

Saturday

Sunday

Main Line:

Main Line:

Breaded Pork Lemon Herb Chicken Cornish Hens Sweet and Sour Pork **Baked Potato Halves Scalloped Potatoes** Rice Brown Rice

Snack Line:

Snack Line: Hamburgers Hamburgers Cheeseburgers Cheeseburgers Grilled Cheese Bratwurst Potato Chips French Fries

~Constellation Cafe~

Hours of operation: 11:30-1:00



Children's Easter party

The children's Easter party will be Sunday, April 5 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. in the fire hall on base.

Refreshments will be provided along with games and entertain-

Please register with the Family Support Office, Building 81, Room 131 to allowed accountability for snack and games.

The Easter Bunny may even be able to attend!

Boss day: April 4

Let your civilian employers see the roles, sacrifices and missions their employees take on in the Pennsylvania Air National Guard on Saturday, April 4 (UTA weekend). There will be demonstrations, displays and briefings, as well as, a luncheon with the

If you still need to register your employer please see your 1st Sgt. or stop by the Public Affairs office. Seating is limited so act

Annual golf tournament

Who: The 193rd Regional Support Group What: 5th Annual Golf Tournament

Where: Blue Mountain Golf Course in Fredericksburg, Pa.

When: May 8 at 8:00

Deadline for entry: May 5, first come first serve basis

Cost: \$240 per foursome

POC: Master Sgt. Robert J. Stock, 717-861-1195

GRAP back in full effect

The Guard Recruiting Assistance Program (GRAP) is back up and running as of Dec. 1, 2008. Nominations that resulted in an enlistment/appointment during the suspension period are being paid retroactive.

For more information about the GRAP and current 193rd SOW/ RSG vacancies, contact Master Sgt. Howie Schappell at (717) 948 - 2254.

To sign up for the GRAP logon to www.guardrecruitingassistant.com and join in on the fun.



Command Chief Perspective: Professional Military Associations

By State Command Chief Master Sgt. Ralph Braden



Last month I encouraged you to consider the benefits of becoming a member of one of the many PMAs available to you as Airmen. This month I will express my opinion on one of the PMAs that I believe benefits the Airmen of the Pennsylvania Air National Guard the most, the Pennsylvania National Guard Enlisted Association.

PNGEA is a part of the Pennsylvania National Guard Associations. Membership in the officers portion of PNGAS, the National Guard Association of Pennsylvania is very high. Due to the low membership of our enlisted Airmen

in PNGEA I would like to share with you some of the membership benefits of this PMA.

Becoming a PNGEA member gives you two PMA memberships for the price of one. Your membership in PNGEA includes a membership in The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States. These two PMAs are truly all about us in the National Guard.

PNGEA represents the enlisted Airmen of the PaANG and PaARNG from a Pennsylvanian's perspective. EANGUS represents the ANG and ARNG from a national perspective. Both truly work diligently for the National Guard and have accomplished much for us over the years.

Some benefits that PNGEA membership provides are a free life insurance policy for the member, low cost additional life insurance above the free \$1,000 policy that is provided, educational scholarships and recognition of Pennsylvania's Outstanding Airmen and Soldiers of the Year.

The three flying Wings in Pennsylvania have benefited from the hard work PNGAS has done on our behalf.

111th Fighter Wing: PNGAS lobbied to get the DOD to transfer Willow Grove Naval Air Station to Pennsylvania. This transfer has enabled the Pennsylvania Air National Guard to keep a presence

at Willow Grove. In addition the Pennsylvania Army National Guard will also utilize Willow Grove in the future along with other government agencies with establishment of the Horsham Joint Interagency Installation there.

193rd Special Operations Wing: PNGAS lobbying facilitated funds to purchase new EC-130J aircraft that will help keep the 193rd Special Operations Wing flying and relevant for years to come

171st Air Refueling Wing: PNGAS efforts played a part ARW recieving KC-135R model with new

recieving KC-135R model with newer engines that will keep them refueling aircraft well into the future.

These are just three examples of what PNGAS membership has helped accomplish for our PaANG.

Each membership in a PMA adds power to the voice that the PMA has when lobbying on our behalf. Our membership in PNGEA provides this PMA the strength it needs to serve all of our PaANG members and make our voices heard.

In my opinion if you are going to join one PMA I contend that PNGEA for enlisted Airmen and NGAPA for the officers serve us as PaNG the most. I urge you to consider membership in the applicable PMA of PNGAS.

Chaplain's Corner: Facing challenge of grief

By Chaplain Robert Humenay

Like love, grief is a kind of wound. Like love, grief is a relationship. One might say love's negative, joy being the positive.

Death occasions deep grief even in the staunchest of believers. While we believe in life eternal, our immediate human experience is the negation of life in the face of death. Our faith is based on something not yet manifest and therefore is hopeful rather than experienced. So we grieve, but not as those without hope.

Despite our hurry-up world, grief takes time. Usually a year as we journey without that special someone through the four seasons, through all the holidays and holy days. Sudden death may take two years. Violent death may take longer. And there are some deaths we never get over.

To avoid getting stuck in grief, take as much time as you need.

Take time for yourself to be alone, pray, day dream, visit the grave, take a walk and reminisce.

Grieving is a form of loving until we are healed and reunited.

